Import of Gold

2234. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of gold brought in India at Mumbai Airport by the Non-Resident Indians during each of the last three years under the liberalised gold import scheme;

(b) whether the Government are aware that gold import scheme which was introduced to curb gold smuggling is in fact being used by smuggling gangs by making use of NRIs returning from gulf countries; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check the smuggling of Gold through NRIs?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The quantity of gold imported through Mumbai Airport by Non Resident Indians during the last three years under the liberalised gold import scheme is as under :

Year	Quantity (in Kg.)
1993-94	44047.118
1994-95	37709.050
1995-96	3081.809
1996-97 (upto 31.10.96)	41825.973

(b) and (c). Recently in some of the cases investigated by the customs authorities, it appeared that the returning Non Resident Indians have been used to carry gold for a consideration in terms of air-fare and/or cash compensation.

The main objectives of the liberalised Gold Import Scheme, interalia, were to encourage the import of gold through licit channels against payment of customs duty in foreign exchange and to discourage smuggling of gold. It has been reported that the introduction of this Scheme has had a healthy impact on checking clandestine imports of gold. At present, there is no proposal before the Government to review this Scheme.

[Translation]

Credit to Foreign Trade

2235. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to instruct all the commercial banks to sanction 15 percent of total bank loan for foreign trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any fixed percentage of bank loan to foreign trade is existing at present;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of loans given for foreign trade during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). RBI guidelines prescribe raising the target to export credit from existing 10 percent to 12 percent of net bank credit of scheduled commercial banks to be achieved by the end of March, 1997. The export credit outstanding of scheduled commercial banks as on 18.3.1994, 31.3.1995 and 29.3.1996 was Rs. 17086 Crores, Rs. 25,051 Crores and Rs. 29,692 Crores respectively.

Export of Agricultural Products

2236. SHRI N.J. RATHWA :
SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether possibilities to export agricultural products from Gujarat and Maharashtra especially from the tribal and backward areas and also their sales in the international market have been ascertained;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Union Government propose to find out the possibilities in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (e). Some of the agricultural products identified for exports from Gujarat and Maharashtra (including the tribal and backward areas) are as under :

Maharashtra	Mangoes, Grapes, Strawberries, Chikoo, Citrus fruits, Bananas, Pomegranates, Ber, Onions, Okra, Beans, Floriculture items and Cotton
Gujarat	Cumin, Fennel, Garlic, Chillies, derivatives of castor seeds, Bananas, Chikoo, Guava, Onions, HPS Groundnuts and deoiled cakes.

[English]

Deposits in Banks/F.Is

2237. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount deposited in Nationalised Banks and other Financial Institutions in the country, Bank-wise and Institution-wise;

(b) whether the deposits in Nationalised Banks and other Financial Institutions have decreased after grant of permission for opening of banks in Private Sector in the country; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). The deposits of each of the nationalised banks as at the end of March 1994, March 1995 and March 1996 as furnished by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is given in the enclosed Statement. RBI has reported that there has been no decline in the total deposits of nationalised banks since the advent of private sector banks from 1994. RBI has also further reported that only selected All India Financial Institutions (FIs) are allowed by RBI to accept term deposits and Certificate of Deposits (CDs). FIs rely on deposits as a source of funds on a limited basis. There is hardly any comparison between deposits raised by FIs and banks *inter alia* for the reason that the terms and conditions at which FIs are allowed to raise deposits are different from those at which banks raise deposits. Further, deposits by FIs are targetted at a different segment of investors than banks. Therefore, opening of new private sector banks could not have affected the deposits raised by FIs.

STATEMENT

Bank-wise Deposits of Nationalised Banks as at time end of March 1994, March 1995 and March 1996

(Rs. Crore)

	Name of Bank	March 1994	March 1995	March 1996
1.	Allahabad Bank	8452.80	9231.01	10148.92
2.	Andhra Pradesh	4041.47	5311.65	5962.22
3.	Bank of Baroda	23115.65	26286.56	28369.53
4.	Bank of India	21419.86	24480.24	22522.92
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	4483.76	5341.20	5921.20
6.	Canara Bank	18638.94	22475.11	26243.24
7.	Central Bank	15966.00	19654.55	19751.60
8.	Corporation Bank	4118.41	6136.29	5733.96
9.	Dena Bank	4923.57	5779.43	6476.41
10.	Indian Bank	11818.02	12739.96	13314.80
11.	Indian Overseas Bank	10804.81	12686.92	14588.74
12.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	5239.06	6673.46	8710.88
13.	Punjab National Bank	21930.87	24713.35	22122.89
14.	Punjab and Sind Bank	4025.87	5277.52	5877.42
15.	Syndicate Bank	10111.79	11777.01	12718.25
16.	Union Bank	11800.95	15482.52	17891.73
17.	United Bank	6991.95	8042.16	8789.93
18.	UCO Bank	9298.14	10328.34	11443.17
19.	Vijaya Bank	4294.62	5870.01	5988.51

[English]

Setting up of Tribunals

2238. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Tribunals were set up with the aim of removing delay and expediting the justice;

(b) if so, whether the aim has not been achieved;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of cases pending in the different Tribunals, tribunal-wise as on date and since when; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to tone-up the working of Tribunals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c). A number of Tribunals have been set up by the Government under various Acts for dealing with cases arising under these Acts. These Tribunals